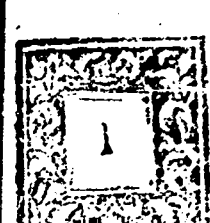


From Thursday January 28, to Tuesday February 4, 1728-9.

(Numb. LXXIII.)

## A LETTER to the Inhabitants of MARYLAND.

Gentlemen,



I AM afraid, That all those who have had any Accounts of their Tobacco, by the Ships now arrived, are too well convinc'd, at their Cost, of the miserable and deplorable State of our Trade, which I think is evidently occasion'd, in a great measure, by the Disagreement of the Merchants in *London*; and it is also manifest, that if a proper Person from the Country were to go and reside in *London*, to be constantly with 'em at all their Meetings, it wou'd contribute much to their Unanimity: This, I believe, will clearly Appear to all who have perused the Account I have lately published, of the Transactions of the Merchants, whilst I was with 'em: And this I am perswaded is of the greatest Consequence; for, as there is manifestly a Consumption for all the Tobacco imported into *Great-Britain*, tho' at low Rates, it's certain that better Prices might be obtained, were there a good Understanding, and Agreements punctually kept amongst the Merchants, which I'm fully convinc'd, nothing will so effectually procure, as the Presence of One, of and from the Country, who will certainly be a Restraint upon 'em, and a Means of keeping 'em together, and of obliging 'em to keep their Agreements when made, better than they have yet done.

Had our Legislature thought proper to have Appointed such a one, and allowed him a standing Salary for his Attendance there, for that Purpose, it had been best; but as that is not done, and as our Assembly may not meet again in a considerable Time, and when they do meet, may not be of that Opinion, but on the contrary may think it too great a

Burthen on the Country, to raise such a Yearly Salary as wou'd be necessary for this Purpose; and Lastly, as the Evil still continues, and is growing on us, I wou'd therefore propose that some Person, who may be thought proper and agreeable to the People of this Province, may be pitch'd on, to go and reside in *London*, for this Purpose: And as he cannot have a Salary allowed him, but by the Legislature, and as that is not now to be obtained; therefore, in order to his Support, and as an Encouragement to him to leave his Family and Affairs here, there be Subscriptions set on Foot to see what Tobacco can be raised, to be consign'd to him; and if the Amount of such Subscription be any thing considerable, it will at the same Time be an Inducement to the Person chosen, to undertake it, and the End aimed at, of serving the Country, obtained, without any Publick Charge. I have only to add, that many of my Friends have made large Offers of their Assistance to Me, if I wou'd undertake this Affair, thinking, that as I've been lately with the Merchants, and was something instrumental to their Associating themselves into a regular Society, that therefore I cou'd contribute as much, or more, than most others, to their continuing together, and our reaping the Fruits we hope for, from those Meetings. If I find the People of this Province are generally of that Opinion, and do demonstrate it by their Subscriptions, in such a Manner as to encourage me to leave my Family and Affairs here, I will most readily undertake to use my best Endeavours for their Service: And I am sure, my Friends and Countrymen, are too reasonable to expect a Thing of this Nature from me, or any other without making it at the same Time the Interest of the Person who undertakes it, as well as their Service that is in View: They will make it go on cheerfully, and will, verily believe, be of Use; or if any other Per-